

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5818

UNCLAS BELGRADE 1446

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC YO

SUBJ: MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT,

MAR 21-APR 19, 1976

REF: STATE 23063; BELGRADE 1367

1. POST NOMINATES R. GRUBOR, AN INVESTMENT MANAGER IN BEOGRADSKA BANKA, YUGOSLAVIA'S LARGEST BANK. AGE 38, GRUBOR GRADUATED FROM FACULTY OF ECONOMY, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE IN 1960, SPECIALIZED IN INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS, AND HAS WORKED ELEVEN YEARS FOR HIS PRESENT EMPLOYER. SPEAKS ENGLISH ADEQUATELY.

2. GRUBOR IS EXPERT IN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN YUGOSLAVIA AND PARTICIPATES IN DECISIONS INVOLVING YUGOSLAV INVESTMENTS AND PROJECTS ABROAD. HE IS INVOLVED IN POLICY MATTERS. IN THE DECENTRALIZED YUGOSLAV SYSTEM, BANKS EXERCISE SIGNIFICANT FUNCTIONS IN FORMULATION, STIMULATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN. GRUBOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE EVALUATION OF INVESTMENT PLANS FOR CONFORMITY WITH DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. ANOTHER ACTIVITY IS ATTEMPTING TO MATCH NEEDS OF FOREIGN AND YUGOSLAV BUSINESSES IN JOINT VENTURES WHICH SUIT ECONOMIC PRIORITIES. IN ADDITION, HE SERVES AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF BEOGRADSKA BANKA TO THE YUGOSLAV BANKING ASSOCIATION AND GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN DELIBERATIONS ON INVESTMENT CONDITIONS AND LEGISLATION.

3. GRUBOR IS REGARDED LOCALLY AS AN INTELLIGENT,  
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ALREADY INFLUENTIAL EXECUTIVE SLATED FOR FURTHER

ADVANCEMENT. PRESIDENT OF BELGRADE CHAMBER OF ECONOMY HAS SPOKEN FAVORABLY OF HIM TO EMBASSY, AND THE LOCAL GOVT WOULD WELCOME APPROVAL OF HIS NOMINATION. IT IS EXPECTED THAT GRUBOR WILL RISE TO A TOP MANAGERIAL POSITION IN BEOGRADSKA BANKA. HE MAY ALSO EMERGE IN A GOOD GOVT POSITION IN LINE WITH YUGOSLAV PRACTICE OF ROTATING TOP EXECUTIVES BETWEEN ENTERPRISES, BANKS AND GOVT JOBS.

4. IN DISCUSSION WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS, GRUBOR HAS SHOWN HIMSELF KEEN TO LEARN AND UNDERSTAND U.S. THINKING ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT. BY HIS OWN ADMISSION HE NEEDS BROADER PERSPECTIVE; HE HAS NOT BEEN ABROAD EXCEPT FOR THREE-MONTH STAY IN UK IN 1970 AT EMPLOYER'S EXPENSE. EMBASSY BELIEVES GRUBOR'S ABILITY, BRIGHT PROSPECTS, AND FUNCTIONS IN INVESTMENT DECISION-MAKING AND POLICY PROCESS MAKE HIM SUITABLE CANDIDATE FOR THIS PROGRAM. WE THINK IT IN OUR INTEREST TO EXPOSE HIM TO US VIEWS. SWEITZER

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